

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of integrating
characterization information associated with a
target image for use with a color reproduction
5 device comprising:

obtaining a measurement store having an
entry corresponding to a color patch of a target
image, the entry comprising a color value of the
color patch;

10 updating the entry in the measurement store
to include spatial information of the color patch in
the target image;

obtaining a measurement of the color patch
in the target image; and

15 updating the entry in the measurement store
to include the measurement.

2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein
the measurement store is an ASCII data file.

20 3. A method according to Claim 2, wherein
the data file is an IT8-formatted data file.

25 4. A method according to Claim 1, wherein
the spatial information comprises a location of the
color patch in the target image.

30 5. A method according to Claim 1, wherein
the spatial information comprises color patch size
information.

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6. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the color reproduction device is an input device, the method further comprising:

obtaining a digital copy of the target
5 image using the input device; and

retrieving a control signal corresponding to a detected color of the color patch in the target image;

10 updating the entry in the measurement store to include the control signal.

7. A method according to Claim 6, wherein updating the entry in the measurement store to include the control signal further comprising:

15 replacing the color value in the measurement store with the control signal.

8. A method according to Claim 6, wherein updating the entry in the measurement store to include the control signal further comprising:

20 adding an input signal component to the entry which comprises the control signal.

9. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the color reproduction device is a printer, obtaining a measurement of a color patch reproduced by the printer further comprising:

25 printing the color patch using the printer and the color value of the entry in the measurement store; and
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measuring a printed color corresponding to the color patch.

5 10. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the color reproduction device is a monitor, obtaining a measurement of a color patch reproduced by the monitor further comprising:

10 displaying the color patch on the monitor using the color value of the entry in the measurement store; and

measuring a displayed color corresponding to the color patch.

15 11. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the method further comprising:

identifying a measurement status using the measurement store.

20 12. A method according to Claim 11, wherein an entry format includes a color value component, a spatial component and a measurement component, identifying a measurement status further comprising:

25 examining the measurement store to determine whether the entry is missing data in at least one of the components.

30 13. A method according to Claim 12, wherein examining the measurement store to determine whether the entry is missing data further comprising:

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14. A method according to Claim 13,
5 wherein the placeholder is a non-numeric
placeholder.

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10         initiating measurement at a point of
        updating the measurement store to include spatial
        information, if the entry's spatial component is
        missing all or some portion.

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15 16. A method according to Claim 12,
wherein the method further comprising:
 obtaining a measurement of the color patch,
if the measurement component is missing all or some
portion.

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17. A method according to Claim 1, wherein
the method further comprising:
generating the color patch in the target
image using the color value of the entry in the
25 measurement store.

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30         updating the measurement store to include
        target dimension information.

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19. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the method further comprising:

generating the target image using the color value to provide input to the output color device.

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20. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the method further comprising:

characterizing the color reproduction device using the measurement store.

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21. A computer-readable medium which stores computer-executable process steps for integrating characterization information associated with a target image for use with a color reproduction device, the computer-readable process steps comprising:

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an obtaining step to obtain a measurement store having an entry corresponding to a color patch of a target image, the entry comprising a color value of the color patch;

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an updating step to update the entry in the measurement store to include spatial information of the color patch in the target image;

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an obtaining step to obtain a measurement of the color patch in the target image; and

an updating step to update the entry in the measurement store to include the measurement.

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22. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21, wherein the measurement store is an ASCII data file.

23. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 22, wherein the data file is an IT8-formatted data file.

5 24. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21, wherein the spatial information comprises a location of the color patch in the target image.

10 25. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21, wherein the spatial information comprises color patch size information.

15 26. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21, wherein the color reproduction device is an input device, the computer-executable process steps further comprising:

 an obtaining step to obtain a digital copy of the target image using the input device; and

20 a retrieving step to retrieve a control signal corresponding to a detected color of the color patch in the target image;

 an updating step to update the entry in the measurement store to include the control signal.

25 27. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 26, wherein the updating step to update the entry in the measurement store to include the control signal further comprising:

30 a replacing step to replace the color value in the measurement store with the control signal.

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28. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 26 wherein the updating step to update the entry in the measurement store to include the control signal further comprising:

5 an adding step to add an input signal component to the entry which comprises the control signal.

29. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21 wherein the color reproduction device is a printer, the obtaining step to obtain a measurement of a color patch reproduced by the printer further comprising:

10 a printing step to print the color patch using the printer and the color value of the entry in the measurement store; and

15 a measuring step to measure a printed color corresponding to the color patch.

30. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21 wherein the color reproduction device is a monitor, the obtaining step to obtain a measurement of a color patch reproduced by the monitor further comprising:

20 a displaying step to display the color patch on the monitor using the color value of the entry in the measurement store; and

25 a measuring step to measure a displayed color corresponding to the color patch.

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31. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21, wherein the computer-executable process steps further comprising an identifying step to identify a measurement status using the measurement store.

32. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 31, wherein an entry format includes a color value component, a spatial component and a measurement component, the identifying step to identify a measurement status further comprising:
an examining step to examine the measurement store to determine whether the entry is missing data in at least one of the components.

33. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 32, wherein the examining step to examine the measurement store to determine whether the entry is missing data further comprising:

a determining step to determine whether the entry includes a placeholder representing the missing data.

34. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 33, wherein the placeholder is a non-numeric placeholder.

35. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 32, wherein the computer-executable process steps further comprising:

an initiating step to initiate measurement at a point of updating the measurement store to include spatial information, if the entry's spatial component is missing all or some portion.

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36. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 32, wherein the computer-executable process steps further comprising:

an obtaining step to obtain a measurement of the color patch, if the measurement component is missing all or some portion.

37. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21, wherein the computer-executable process steps further comprising:

a generating step to generate the color patch in the target image using the color value of the entry in the measurement store.

38. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 37, wherein the generating step to generate the color patch in the target image further comprising:

an updating step to update the measurement store to include target dimension information.

39. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21, wherein the computer-executable process steps further comprising:

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a generating step to generate the target image using the color value to provide input to the output color device.

5 40. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21, wherein the computer-executable process steps further comprising:

10 a characterizing step to characterize the color reproduction device using the measurement store.

15 41. A memory for integrating characterization information associated with a target image for use with a color reproduction device, the memory comprising:

 a color component comprising a color value representing a color patch of a target image;

20 a spatial component, the spatial component comprising position information of the color patch in the target image generated using the color value; and

 a measurement component, the measurement component representing a measurement of the color patch.

25 42. A memory according to Claim 41, wherein the memory is an ASCII data file.

30 43. A memory according to Claim 42, wherein the data file is an IT8-formatted data file.

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44. A memory according to Claim 41,
wherein the spatial component includes a location of
the color patch in the target image.

5 45. A memory according to Claim 41,
wherein the spatial component includes color patch
size information.

10 46. A memory according to Claim 41,
wherein a placeholder is usable in the spatial and
measurement components to identify missing data.

15 47. A memory according to Claim 46,
wherein the placeholder is a non-numeric
placeholder.

20 48. A memory according to Claim 41,
wherein the memory further comprising a format
structure including format information of said
memory.

25 49. A memory according to Claim 48,
wherein the format information comprises at least
one position tag identifying a data type of an
element in the spatial component.

30 50. A memory according to Claim 48,
wherein the format information includes dimension
information of the target image.

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51. A memory according to Claim 48,
wherein the format information includes a uniform
sizing of color patches in the target image.

5 52. A memory according to Claim 48,
wherein the format information includes a unit of
measure of elements in the spatial component.

10 53. A memory according to Claim 41,
wherein the memory further comprising:
a signal component comprising a control
signal representing a detected color of the color
patch.

15 54. A memory according to Claim 53,
wherein the signal component is stored in place of
the color component.

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